10/726,712

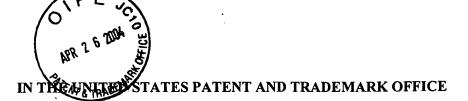
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Application Number

TRANSMITTAL		Filing Date 12/02/2002			
FORM			Filing Date	12/03/200	
			First Named Inventor	YASUI, SI	nugo
(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)		Art Unit	1771		
<i>I</i>			Examiner Name	To Be Ass	igned
Total Number of Pages in This Submission 15		Attorney Docket Number	032405.15	59	
ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)					
☐ Fee Transmittal Form		Drawin	g(s)	After Al Group	lowance Communication to
☐ Fee Attached ☐ Lice		Licensi	ng-related Papers	Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences	
Amendment / Reply		Petition	1		Communication to Group Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
After Final		Provisi	i to Convert to a onal Application	Proprie	tary Information
Affidavits/declaration(s)		Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address		Status I	Letter
Extension of Time Request		Terminal Disclaimer			Enclosure(s) identify below):
Express Abandonment Request		_ :	st for Refund	Cite	and Form PTO/SB/08a ed Foreign Patent References opean Search Report
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Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)		Rema	rks		
Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application					
Response to Missi Parts under 37 CF 1.52 or 1.53					
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT					
Firm or Robert G. Weilacher, Reg. No. 20,531					
Signature Mulum					
Date Apri	1 23 , 2004				
CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING					
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.					
Typed or printed name	Lucy Kimsey	A ,			
Signature		Jun	100 6/	Date	April 2004
	equired by 37 CFR/1	.b. The inform	ation is required to obtain or retain a ber	nefit by the public	which is to file (and by the USPTO to

In the morphism of minimum is required by 37 CFR 1.P. The minimum is required to obtain or retain a penetit by the public which is to tile (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Confirmation No.: 6374



Appl. No.

10/726,712

Applicant(s): Filed:

YASUI, Shugo 12/03/2003

TC/A.U.

1771

Examiner:

To Be Assigned

Title:

Flexbeam

Docket No.:

032405.159

Customer No.:

25461

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. 1.56, Applicant is enclosing an Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Form PTO/SB/08a) and a copy of the foreign patent documents cited therein. The relevance of the cited document is indicated in the European Search Report, dated March 22, 2004, being submitted herewith. Japanese Patent Publication No. 10-287297 was previously cited in Applicant's Information Disclosure Statement filed December 3, 2003.

It is respectfully requested that the cited documents be considered by the Examiner in the aboveidentified patent application and that the cited documents be made officially of record therein. It is further requested that a listing of the same appear on the face of any patent which may issue from this application.

A first Official Action has not yet issued for this application. Therefore, it is believed that no fees are due under 37 C.F.R. Section 1.97(b)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

By: Robert G. Weilacher, Reg. No. 20,531

Dated: April 23, 2004

SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUSSELL, LLP

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PTO/SB/08a (08-03)

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

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Complete if Known			
Application Number	10/726,712		
Filing Date	12/03/2003		
First Named Inventor	YASUI, Shugo		
Art Unit	1771		
Examiner Name	To Be Assigned		
Attorney Docket Number	032405.159		

	U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner	Cita	Document Number	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
Examiner Cite Initials • No.1	No.1	Number - Kind Code ² (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY	Cited Document		
	Ì	US- 5,358,381	10-25-1994	COVINGTON ET AL.		
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	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document	Publication	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T⁵	
	Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (<i>if known</i>)	Date MM-DD-YYYY				
		EP 0 323 857 A2/A3	07-12-1989	FUJI JUKOGYO KABUSHIKI KAISHA		
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Examiner Signature	Date Considered		

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.